

# Maternal stress and fetal supernumerary ribs

- *Mice* show a relationship between maternal stress and supernumerary ribs
- *rats* do not
- Supernumerary ribs are not the major skeletal variation caused by bromacil in rats

# Data from Beyer and Chernoff (1986)

	<b>Control</b>	<b>12 hour food &amp; water restriction</b>	<b>12 hour immobilization</b>
<b>Extra ribs (% of litters)</b>			
Mice	2.8	7.4	25.3*
Rats	0	0.43	0.43
<b>Maternal weight gain (g)</b>			
Mice	5.7	5.8	5.3
Rats	62.2	63.2	63.8

Data from Chernoff et al. (1990)

	<i>Maternal survival</i>	<i>Pregnancy weight gain<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>SNR incidence<sup>1</sup></i>
2,4,5-trichlorophenol	88	-8.3	.013
2,4-D	85	-14.1	.180*
<b>EBIS</b>	63	-71.8*	-.006
Styrene	100	-7.4	-.004
<b>Toxaphene</b>	50	-4.4	.173*
<b>Cacodylic acid</b>	100	1.6	-.005
Diquat	96	-4.4	.069

<sup>1</sup> expressed relative to vehicle control

\*statistically different from control

Data from Chernoff et al. (1991)

	Control	Bromoxynil
<b>Supernumerary ribs</b> (% of litters)		
Mice	10	43**
Rats	9	56**
<b>Maternal weight gain, net (g)</b>		
Mice	4.8	5.4
Rats	32.2	32.8

Bromoxynil dose, mice 96.4 mg/kg/d, rats 15 mg/kg/d, gd 6-15;  
N/group , mice 14/15, rats 17/19.

# Data from Alvarez (1988)

		Bromacil (mg/kg/d)				
		0	20	75	200	500
<i>Number examined</i>		330 <sup>1</sup>	304	329	318	330
Vertebrae	-missing	2	0	0	0	0
	-extra	0	0	0	8	110
Ribs	-callused	0	0	0	1	3
	-rudimentary cervical	3	2	1	2	5
	-rudimentary lumbar	4	8	4	18	34
	-thickened	0	0	2	0	1
Sternebrae	-misaligned	2	2	0	4	3
Ilium-unilateral caudal shift		0	0	0	1	14

<sup>1</sup>Number of fetuses affected

# References

- Chernoff N, Setzer RW, Miller DB, Rosen MB, Rogers JM. Effects of chemically induced maternal toxicity on prenatal development in the rat. *Teratology* 42:651-658 (1990).
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